Secretary in this regard and a decision is to be taken. I wish that the matter were taken up more seriously and not merely at the Secretaries' level. Political intervention is sought for and I appeal to the Government to intervene immediately and to come to a decision.

Here is a Government which, if it takes the step, it will not be viewed only in monetary terms. It will be viewed as an assault on the media, an assault on democracy and an assault on information.

I, therefore, rise to protest against this particular hike and to request the Government to see that this proposed hike is withdrawn. After all this hike is also being introduced because of the failure of the State Bank of India to fulfil its commitment to foreign newsprint dealers and because of the State Bank of India's failure, which means the Government of India's failure, the newspapers should not be penalised. The media should not be penalised. This is my humble request.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharasa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today I am pained to say that whatever we speak in the House is not broadcast by A.I.R. or telecast by Doordarshan. If some how it is included in the Parliament News bulletin it is broadcast in Hindi bulletin alone and not in the Parliament News bulletin in English. I have been a member of Bihar Legislative Assembly for the last ten years and I was elected to Parliament last time also from Bihar. But since then I have been watching that whatever we say is not telecast, broadcast or published at all. I am much pained by all this. Speeches of important leaders and the honourable Members occupying the front seats are published as well as broadcast and telecast. This makes us feel as if we have been elected to this House by animals and not by human beings. After a lot of efforts we get a chance to speak, but we are pained when we find that whatever we speak here is not given publicity. I request you to issue a direction to the media in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): I am trying to add one line to what Shri Advaniji has just said in the House. The problem which has just come for raising the rate of newsprint is because of the canalisation of newsprint through STC. The real solution to this problem will be to decanalise the import of newsprint through STC or anybody else. Because most of the time the L.Cs. are not opened in time, the commitments are made and the newsprint does not reach in time. I hope the Government will decanalise so that this problem does not come up. I only hope that all the liberal measures will be supported by Shri L. K. Advani (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Sir, before speaking on the subject of my notice, I would like to comment on the matter raised by my hon. colleague Shri Surya Narayan Yadav...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: Please confine yourself to the subject of your notice.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I am speaking on the subject of my notice only. I urge our media persons to take note of these things. Actually people ask me the reasons behind the statements and speeches made here not reaching them. Now I come to the subject of my notice. Last week the erosion caused by Kosi river caused the river's embankments to collapse. This prompted the Minister of Water Resources of Bihar to submit his resignation. Fortunately the Chief Minister did not accept his resignation as he is an able Minister. Kosi, Kamala and Bagmati are three rivers which carry silt as they flow down from the northern Himalayas beyond Kathmandu. Had I not seen

it, I would not have believed it Sagarmalha.....

MR. SPEAKER: Your speeches are so interesting that we want to keep listening, but there is not much time at our disposal.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I am not giving a speech. I am putting my point very briefly. All the three rivers are bringing top soil from the Himalayas...

MR. SPEAKER: Please wind up now.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I am concluding. This matter is related to Nepal also. Due to the machinations of some contractors the repair work cannot be done. So I request that a team be sent there consisting of MPs from all parties and also representatives of the Nepalese Government. A solution to this problem could be delayed if handled by the official machinery. This problem of erosion is troubling both India and Nepal. I would, therefore, request that a Parliamentary team may be formed for the purpose.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Sir, I would like to draw your attention to an important international matter. As you know, Sir, India has always worked for world peace. Yesterday a treaty was signed between Russia and the U.S. by Mr. George Bush and Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev. I think this is a historic treaty. Government of India and this house should have welcomed this treaty. I would like the Government on Hon. Speaker to bring a resolution which expresses support for this treaty, because by this move the super powers are moving towards world peace which has always been our goal.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: If the Chair brings such a Resolution, it will be passed unanimously.

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (*Azamgarh*): *Sir, it is no doubt a historic Treaty. I met you this morning in your Chamber and you yourself welcomed that and said that this is a major historic treaty. After meeting you, I talked to the Foreign Minister and also I talked to the former Foreign Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji and the leaders of various parties. There is full agreement on the proposal that a small welcome message should go from the House, and the Foreign Minister is consulting the Prime Minister and I think that with a small message he will come, may be from the Chair that message will go welcoming this historic Treaty and also hoping that it will ultimately lead to total ban on armaments. I think it is a welcome historic Treaty and it concerns the entire world, the peace-loving people all over the world.*

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Sir, it would be better if the Government makes a statement on this Treaty. This statement should reflect the Government's point of view because whatever has happened is most welcome. Whatever remains to be done should also be discussed. India has adopted a stand on nuclear disarmament and today there is need to reiterate it. That is why I had suggested to Shri Yadav that a statement should come from the Government and then all of us may express our support.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: The hon. Foreign Minister has said that he will talk to the hon. Prime Minister and convey our sentiments today itself.

MR. SPEAKER: I think this is a very good suggestion. I will discuss it with the Government, Opposition leaders and other hon. Members and an appropriate step will be taken.